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ABSTRACT

The Amish, who came to North America from Europe in the 1700s and 1800s, and settled primarily in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, New York, and Ontario, Canada, have attracted much attention and interest, particularly in the area of health care. The purpose of this bibliography is to guide the investigator toward the principal sources that cover the area of health and the Amish. It is by no means comprehensive, but the attempt was made to completely cover 1980 to 1989. During the compilation of this document, five major areas of exploration became evident and comprise the five major sections of this bibliography. These are: (1) general works (4 items); (2) health care practices and attitudes (15 items); (3) medical studies (82 items); (4) psychological studies (35 items); and (5) population studies (20 items). This listing includes monographic works, journal articles, Ph.D dissertations, reports, papers presented at symposia, government documents, and audio-visual materials. (JB)

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HEALTH AND THE AMISH: A BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REVIEW

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For the Health Sciences Library
State University of New York at Buffalo
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HEALTH AND THE AMISH: A BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SURVEY

PREFACE

The purpose of this bibliography is to guide the investigator toward the principal sources existing in the area of Health and the Amish. It is by no means fully comprehensive, but the attempt has been made to completely cover 1980 to the present.

During the compilation of this bibliography, five major areas of exploration became evident and comprise the five major sections of this bibliography. These are: General Works (survey articles on Health Care and the Amish as well as excellent background on the Amish people and culture), Health Care Practices and Attitudes, Medical Studies, Psychological Studies, and Population Studies.

Format was not restricted, so this listing includes monographic works, journal articles, Ph.D. dissertations, reports, papers presented at symposia, government documents, and audio-visual materials.

INTRODUCTION

The Amish have attracted much curiosity, interest, and wonder - from outside tourists to genetic researchers. This has especially been evident in the past two decades and particularly in the area of Health Care.

Joseph A. Hostetler, author of Amish Society, described the Amish as "...a church, a community, a spiritual union, a conservative branch of Christianity, a religion, a community whose members practice simple and austere living, a familistic entrepreneuring system, and an adaptive human community." (1) They have settled primarily in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, New York, and Ontario, Canada. According to Hostetler, they are the "direct descendants of the Anabaptists of sixteenth-century Europe...:" were named after their leader, Jacob Amman: are a branch of the Swiss brethren (one of three groups resulting from the Anabaptist movement) (2): and came to America during two peak immigration periods, 1727-1770 and 1815-1860. (3)

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1. John A. Hostetler, Amish Society, (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1980), p. 4.

2. Ibid., p. 25.

3. Ibid., p. 50.

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